

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting

February 19, 2004

2:00 p.m.

Room 433, Blatt Building

Members Present: Mr. Staton, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Daniel, Senator Fair, Senator Giese, Mr. Lightsey, Mrs. Marlowe, Representative Neal, Superintendent Tenenbaum, Representative Walker, Mr. Wilson

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Mr. Staton welcomed members and their guests to the meeting.
- II. **Minutes of the January 15 meeting:** The minutes of the meeting were approved as distributed.
- III. **Subcommittee Reports:**
 - A. **Academic Standards and Assessments:** Mr. Wilson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He outlined the review process for the High School Assessment Program, the recommendations to the State Department of Education and general concerns for students entering high school having scored below basic on the PACT. The Committee approved the recommendations to the State Department of Education.
Mr. Wilson also reported a request of the staff to conduct simulations for the inclusion of the graduation rate in the district rating.
 - B. **EIA and Improvement Mechanisms:** Mr. Daniel asked Dr. Anderson to review the Second Year Formative Report on the Teacher Specialist on Site Program. Dr. Anderson briefly reviewed the report, noting issues for consideration. Mrs. Tenenbaum commented on the technical assistance recommendations adopted in December 2003, including the Teacher Advancement Program. Mrs. Marlowe asked for the ratings of the schools participating in the Teacher Advancement Program.
 - C. **Parent Involvement:** Mrs. Marlowe indicated that the Parent Involvement Subcommittee had met in conjunction with the Public Awareness.

- D. **Public Awareness:** Mr. Martin reported that the two subcommittees had reviewed the reports from the community meetings and that a publication is being developed so that the responses to the four questions can be communicated broadly.
- E. **Administration:** There was no report.
- IV. **General Discussion:** Senator Giese raised the issue of the high school graduation and/or completion rate. Representative Neal concurred that these rates are appalling and that SC had not come to grips with the economic crisis. Ultimately, we must make the decision to educate all children. Mrs. Hoag and Mr. Walker discussed issues of funding and results.
- V. **Report from a Key Constituency:** Mr. Ed McMullen and Dr. Danny Varat presented a report on school funding prepared for the SC Policy Council. Members asked several questions for clarification and understanding.
- VI. Having no other business, the EOC adjourned at 3:50 p.m.